

ViVa – Medical Student Agreement

The Victoria Vanuatu Physicians Association (ViVa) has been providing medical care to the people of Tanna Island and TAFEA province in southern Vanuatu since 1991. Generally, the ViVa Doctor comes from southern Vancouver Island and contracts for a six-month term on Tanna. The ViVa Doctor is employed by the government of Vanuatu, and resides and works primarily at Lenakel Hospital on Tanna. Their presence on Tanna offers a unique opportunity to Medical Students from "First World" medical programs (Students) to train in Tropical Medicine in a third-world facility under the guidance of a Canadian doctor.

In signing and submitting this form the Student agrees to the following terms:

- 1) Any Student considering going to Tanna, Vanuatu must meet with and have agreement from the ViVa Doctor who will be hosting them on Tanna. This will require planning the elective at least six months in advance of the travel date.
- 2) The timing and duration of any Student visit to Tanna must be negotiated with the ViVa Doctor in advance. It will be advantageous to both parties if the Student arrives after the ViVa Doctor has been on Tanna for 6 weeks and leaves before the ViVa Doctor enters his last month on Tanna (mid-March to end of June, and mid-September to end of December). Two weeks is an appropriate visit length
- 3) While Tanna is a safe environment, ViVa assumes no liability for the health or safety of the Student, and the Student should ensure they are aware of the health risks on Tanna and take appropriate precautions. Poor infrastructure makes the consequences of natural disasters potentially catastrophic. Medical travel insurance, including coverage for medical evacuation is strongly recommended.
- 4) All travel costs and arrangements as well as travel accommodation are the responsibility of the Student.
- 5) Accommodation and meals on Tanna are the Student's responsibility although the ViVa Doctor may be able to help guide the Student, and arrange accommodation at a guesthouse on the hospital grounds. Laundry, shopping, and travel on Tanna will be the responsibility of the Student. Students should expect standards of travel, accommodation, sanitation, and hygiene in keeping with a third-world country.
- 6) ViVa is unable to guarantee any set quota of Students who can come to Tanna.
- 7) Teaching demands are at the discretion of the ViVa Doctor on Tanna at the time the Student visits. The ViVa Doctor will keep the safety and well being of his patient's paramount, Student procedures and skill learning secondary to this.
- 8) There is no prescribed set of illnesses or procedures any Student may see, as this is highly variable and unpredictable. Students should become acquainted with the diagnosis and

management of: tuberculosis, malaria, pneumonia, meningitis, typhoid, malnutrition, burns, and perinatal complications, prior to arriving on Tanna.

- 9) The grading and performance evaluation process by the ViVa Doctor will be in keeping with evaluation of an elective, and the Student will also be required to evaluate the experience.
- 10) Students should not drive the ViVa Doctor's truck except in emergencies. Similarly, the ViVa computer would be shared with the Student at the Doctor's discretion.
- 11) Exclusion of Liability and Assumption of Risk. As a condition of acceptance for an elective on Tanna the Student assumes all risk of personal injury, death or property loss resulting from any cause whatsoever including, but not limited to: the risks, dangers and hazards of snorkeling, boating, hiking, exploration of the active volcano, and other recreational activities and environmental hazards while on Tanna, the use of the Viva doctor's truck while on Tanna, travel on the island of Tanna; or negligence, breach of contract, or breach of statutory duty of care on the part of the "Victoria Vanuatu Physician's Association" and its employees, agents, directors, volunteers, representatives, sponsors, successors and assigns (hereafter referred to collectively as "ViVa"). The Student agrees that ViVa shall not be liable for any such personal injury, death or property loss and releases ViVa and waives all claims with respect thereto.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 20____.

ViVa preceptor

Student